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(54) Title: TETRAHYDROISOQUINOLYL ACETAMIDE DERIVATIVES FOR USE AS OREXIN RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS

$$R^2 \longrightarrow R^1 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow NH_2$$
 (I)

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to novel acetamide derivatives of formula (1) and their use as active ingredients in the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions. The invention also concerns related aspects including processes for the preparation of such compounds, pharmaceutical compositions containing one or more of those compounds and especially their use as orexin receptor antagonists.

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## TETRAHYDROISOQUINOLYL ACETAMIDE DERIVATIVES FOR USE AS OREXIN RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS

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The present invention relates to novel acetamide derivatives of formula (I) and their use as pharmaceuticals. The invention also concerns related aspects including processes for the preparation of the compounds, pharmaceutical compositions containing one or more compounds of formula (I), and especially their use as orexin receptor antagonists.

The orexins (hypocretins) comprise two neuropeptides produced in the hypothalamus: the orexin A (OX-A) (a 33 aminoacid peptide) and the orexin B (OX-B) (a 28 aminoacid peptide) (Sakurai T. et al., Cell, 1998, 92, 573-585). Orexins are found to stimulate food consumption in rats suggesting a physiological role for these peptides as mediators in the central feedback mechanism that regulates feeding behaviour (Sakurai T. et al., Cell, 1998, 92, 573-585). On the other hand, it was also proposed that orexins regulate states of sleep and wakefulness opening potentially novel therapeutic approaches for narcoleptic patients (Chemelli R.M. et al., Cell, 1999, 98, 437-451). Two orexin receptors have been cloned and characterised in mammals which belong to the G-protein coupled receptor superfamily (Sakurai T. et al., Cell, 1998, 92, 573-585), the orexin-1 receptor (OX<sub>1</sub>) which is selective for OX-A and the orexin-2 receptor (OX<sub>2</sub>) which is capable to bind OX-A as well as OX-B.

Orexin receptors are found in the mammalian brain and may have numerous implications in pathologies such as depression; anxiety; addictions, obsessive compulsive disorder; affective neurosis; depressive neurosis; anxiety neurosis; dysthymic disorder; mood disorder; sexual dysfunction; psychosexual dysfunction; sex disorder; schizophrenia; manic depression; delirium; dementia; severe mental retardation and dyskinesias such as Huntington's disease and Tourette syndrome; eating disorders; sleep disorders; cardiovascular diseases, diabetes; appetite/taste disorders; vomiting/nausea; asthma; Parkinson's disease; Cushing's syndrome/disease; basophil adenoma; prolactinoma; hyperprolactinemia; hypopituitarism; hypophysis tumour/adenoma; hypothalamic diseases; inflammatory bowel disease; gastric dyskinesia; gastric ulcers; Froehlich's syndrome; hypophysis diseases, hypothalamic hypogonadism; Kallman's syndrome (anosmia, hyposmia); functional or psychogenic amenorrhea; hypothalamic

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hypothyroidism; hypothalamic-adrenal dysfunction; idiopathic hyperprolactinemia; hypothalamic disorders of growth hormone deficiency; idiopathic growth deficiency; dwarfism; gigantism; acromegaly; disturbed biological and circadian rhythms; sleep disturbances associated with diseases such as neurological disorders, neuropathic pain and restless leg syndrome; heart and lung diseases, acute and congestive heart failure; hypotension; hypertension; urinary retention; osteoporosis; angina pectoris; myocardial infarction; ischemic or haemorrhagic stroke; subarachnoid haemorrhage; ulcers; allergies; benign prostatic hypertrophy; chronic renal failure; renal disease; impaired glucose tolerance; migraine; hyperalgesia; pain; enhanced or exaggerated sensitivity to pain such as hyperalgesia, causalgia, and allodynia; acute pain; burn pain; atypical facial pain; neuropathic pain; back pain; complex regional pain syndrome I and II; arthritic pain; sports injury pain; pain related to infection e.g. HIV, post-chemotherapy pain; post-stroke pain; post-operative pain; neuralgia; conditions associated with visceral pain such as irritable bowel syndrome, migraine and angina; urinary bladder incontinence e.g. urge incontinence; tolerance to narcotics or withdrawal from narcotics; sleep apnea; narcolepsy; insomnia; parasomnia; and neurodegenerative disorders including nosological entities such as disinhibition-dementia-parkinsonism-amyotrophy complex; pallido-pontonigral degeneration epilepsy; seizure disorders and other diseases related to general orexin system dysfunction.

Up to now some low molecular weight compounds are known which have a potential to antagonise either specifically OX<sub>1</sub> or OX<sub>2</sub>, or both receptors at the same time. In WO 99/09024, WO 99/58533, WO 00/47576, WO 00/47577 and WO 00/47580 formerly SmithKline Beecham reported phenylurea, phenylthiourea and cinnamide derivatives as OX<sub>1</sub> selective antagonists. More recently WO 01/85693 from Banyu Pharmaceuticals has been published wherein N-acyltetrahydroisoquinoline derivatives are disclosed. 2-Aminomethylpiperidine derivatives (WO 01/96302), 3-aminomethyl-morpholine derivatives (WO 02/44172) and N-aroyl cyclic amines (WO 02/89800, WO 02/90355, WO 03/51368 and WO 03/51871) have been suggested by formerly SmithKline Beecham as orexin receptor antagonists. Related compounds are disclosed in WO 03/02559, WO 03/02561, WO 03/32991, WO 03/41711, WO 03/51872 and WO 03/51873. In WO 03/37847 formerly SmithKline Beecham reported benzamide derivatives as orexin receptor antagonists. International patent applications WO 01/68609 and WO 02/51838 disclose 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline and novel benzazepine derivatives as orexin receptor

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antagonists. The novel compounds of the present invention belong to a different class of low molecular weight compounds as compared to all prior art orexin receptor antagonists so far published.

The present invention comprises acetamide derivatives, which are non-peptide antagonists of the human orexin receptors. These compounds, therefore, are of potential use in the treatment of disturbed homeostasis and eating disorders (e.g. bulimia, obesity, food abuse, compulsive eating or irritable bowel syndrome), as well as disturbed sleep/wake schedule, sleep disorders (e.g. insomnias, apneas, dystonias) or stress-related diseases (e.g. anxiety, mood and blood pressure disorders) or any other disease related to the orexin dysfunction.

The present invention relates to novel acetamide derivatives of the formula (I).

$$R^2$$
 $R^3$ 
 $R^4$ 
 $R^5$ 
 $R^6$ 
 $R^6$ 

formula (I)

wherein:

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R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> independently represent hydrogen; cyano; halogen; hydroxyl; lower alkyl; lower alkenyl; lower alkenyl; lower alkenyloxy; trifluoromethoxy; cycloalkyloxy or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> together as well as R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together or R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> together may form with the phenyl ring, to which they are attached, a five, six or seven-membered ring containing one or two oxygen atoms;

R<sup>5</sup> represents unsubstituted phenyl-C1-C4 alkyl or naphthyl-C1-C4 alkyl; mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl-C1-C4 alkyl whereby the substituents independently are lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy or halogen; unsubstituted or mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl-C2-C4 alkenyl whereby the substituents independently are lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyl, trifluoromethyl,

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trifluormethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen; a five- or six-membered heterocyclic ring-C1-C4 alkyl, whereby these rings contain one oxygen, one nitrogen or one sulphur atom; or two hetero atoms selected independently from oxygen, nitrogen or sulphur, whereby these heterocyclic rings are unsubstituted or mono- di- or tri-substituted independently with lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluormethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen; cycloalkyl-C1-C4 alkyl; or R<sup>7</sup>OCH<sub>2</sub>-;

R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen, phenyl; mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl whereby the substituents independently are lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyl, trifluoromethyl or halogen;

R<sup>7</sup> represents C1-C4 alkyl, phenyl; mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl whereby the substituents independently are C1-C4 alkyl, C1-C4 alkoxy, C2-C4 alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen; phenyl-C1-C4 alkyl; mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl-C1-C4 alkyl, whereby the substituents independently are C1-C4 alkyl, C1-C4 alkoxy, C2-C4 alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

In the present description the term "lower alkyl", alone or in combination, means a straight-chain or branched-chain alkyl group with 1 to 8 carbon atoms, preferably a straight or branched-chain alkyl group with 1-4 carbon atoms. Examples of straight-chain and branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl groups are methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, isobutyl, sec.-butyl, tert.-butyl, the isomeric pentyls, the isomeric hexyls, the isomeric heptyls and the isomeric octyls, preferably methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, sec.-butyl, tert.-butyl, isobutyl and pentyl.

The term "lower alkenyl", alone or in combination, means a straight-chain or branched-chain alkenyl group with 2 to 5 carbon atoms, preferably 2 to 4 carbon atoms, preferably allyl and vinyl.

The term "lower alkoxy", alone or in combination, means a group of the formula alkyl-O- in which the term "alkyl" has the previously given significance, such as methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, isopropoxy, n-butoxy, isobutoxy, sec.-butoxy and tert.-butoxy, preferably methoxy and ethoxy.

Lower alkenyloxy groups are preferably vinyloxy and allyloxy.

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The term "cycloalkyl", alone or in combination, means a cycloalkyl ring with 3 to 8 carbon atoms and preferably a cycloalkyl ring with 3 to 6 carbon atoms. Examples of C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl are cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexyl and cyclooctyl, preferably cyclopropyl, cyclohexyl and particularly cyclohexyl or lower alkyl substituted cycloalkyl which may preferably be substituted with lower alkyl such as methyl-cyclopropyl, dimethyl-cyclopropyl, methyl-cyclobutyl, methyl-cyclopentyl, methyl-cyclopentyl, methyl-cyclohexyl, dimethyl-cyclohexyl.

The term "aryl", alone or in combination, means a phenyl or naphthyl group which optionally carries one or more substituents, preferably one or two substituents, each independently selected from cyano, halogen, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, NH<sub>2</sub>CO-, CH<sub>3</sub>NHCO-, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>NCO-, H<sub>2</sub>N-, CH<sub>3</sub>NH-, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>N-, CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>NH-, CH<sub>3</sub>NHSO<sub>2</sub>- or CH<sub>3</sub>CO-NH-. Preferred are naphthyl, phenyl and phenyl independently substituted with lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, or halogen.

The term "aralkyl", alone or in combination, means a lower alkyl or cycloalkyl group as previously defined in which one hydrogen atom has been replaced by an aryl group as previously defined. Preferred are benzyl or 2-phenyl-ethyl groups that might be unsubstituted or independently substituted at the aryl group with lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy or halogen.

The term "aralkenyl", alone or in combination, means a lower alkenyl group as previously defined in which one hydrogen atom has been replaced by an aryl group as previously defined. Preferred are 2-phenyl-ethenyl groups. Particularly preferred are 2-phenyl-ethenyl groups substituted at the phenyl group with one or two fluorine atoms.

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For the term "heterocyclyl" and "heterocyclyl-lower alkyl", the heterocyclyl group is preferably a 5- to 10-membered monocyclic or bicyclic ring, which may be saturated, partially unsaturated or aromatic containing for example 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulphur which may be the same or different. Examples of such heterocyclyl groups are pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, thienyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, furyl, imidazoyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, isoxazolyl, oxazolyl, quinoxalinyl, phthalazinyl, cinnolinyl, dihydropyrrolyl, pyrrolidinyl, isobenzofuranyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, dihydropyranyl. The heterocyclyl group, if aromatic, may have up to 3 optional substituents. Saturated heterocyclyl groups may have one substituent. Examples of suitable substituents include halogen, lower alkyl, amino, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, carboxy and lower alkyloxy-carbonyls.

The term "halogen" means fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine and preferably fluorine and chlorine.

The term "carboxy", alone or in combination, signifies a -COOH group.

- 25 Examples of preferred compounds of formula (I) are:
  - 2-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-{1-[2-(3,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-[1-(2-Furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-{1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

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- 2-[1-(2,5-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 5 2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-{1-[2-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
    - 2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
    - 2-{1-[2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 2-[1-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-{1-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-phenoxymethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-[6-(3,4-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-6H-[1,4]dioxino[2,3-g]isoquinolin-7-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 25 2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methyl-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $\label{eq:conditional} \ensuremath{\text{(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-phenyl-ethyl-e$
- 30 isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-ethyl-et$

- 1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(5-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-
- 1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-
- 5 1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 10 (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-phenyl-phenyl-ethyl-ethyl-et$
- 15 1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(5-Chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 20 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-
- 25 1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-6-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 30 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2,3-Diffuoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

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- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 5 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Chloro-6-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-o-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-m-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-p-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 15 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoguinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 25 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,6-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $(R)-2-\{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-1-(1-4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyll-3,4-dihydro-1H-1-(1-4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyll-3,4-dihydro-1H-1-(1-4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyll-3,4-dihydro-1H-1-(1-4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyll-3,4-dihydro-1H-1-(1-4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyll-3,4-dihydro-1H-1-(1-4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyll-3,4-dihydro-1H-1$
- 30 isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1 H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide;$

- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 5 (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $\label{eq:continuous} \ensuremath{(R)-2-\{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-phenyl$
- 10 isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,4-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 15 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2,6-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 25 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Bromo-phenyi)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1Hisoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

Examples of particularly preferred compounds of formula (I) are:

- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 5 (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 10 isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-o-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 15 (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-m-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-p-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-
- 20 yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide;$
- 25 (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,6-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fhoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1 H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide;$
- 30 isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide.

The present invention encompasses physiologically usable or pharmaceutically acceptable salts of compounds of formula (I). This encompasses salts with physiologically compatible mineral acids such as hydrochloric acid, sulphuric or phosphoric acid; or with organic acids such as formic acid, methanesulphonic acid, acetic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid, maleic acid, tartaric acid, succinic acid or salicylic acid and the like. The compounds of formula (I) which are acidic can also form salts with physiologically compatible bases. Examples of such salts are alkali metal, alkali earth metal, ammonium and alkylammonium salts such as Na, K, Ca or tetraalkylammonium salt. For a comprehensive list see "Handbook of Pharmaceutical Salts", P.H. Stahl, C.G. Wermuth Eds., Wiley-VCH, Weinheim/Zürich 2002, p. 329-350. The compounds of formula (I) can also be present in the form of a zwitterion.

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The present invention encompasses different solvation complexes of compounds of general formula (I). The solvation can be effected in the course of the manufacturing process or can take place separately, e.g. as a consequence of hygroscopic properties of an initially anhydrous compound of general formula (I).

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The present invention further encompasses different morphological forms, e.g. crystalline forms, of compounds of general formula (I) and their salts and solvation complexes. Particular heteromorphs may exhibit different dissolution properties, stability profiles, and the like, and are all included in the scope of the present invention.

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The compounds of formula (I) might have one or several asymmetric centres and can be present in the form of optically pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers such as, for example, racemates, optically pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates or mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the mesoforms.

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Preferred compounds of formula (I) have IC<sub>50</sub> values below 100 nM, particularly preferred compounds have IC<sub>50</sub> values below 10 nM which have been determined with the

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FLIPR (Fluorometric Imaging Plates Reader) method described in the beginning of the experimental section.

The compounds of formula (I) and their pharmaceutically usable salts are useful in the preparation of a medicament for the prevention or treatment of diseases selected from the group consisting of depression; anxiety; addictions; obsessive compulsive disorder; affective neurosis; depressive neurosis; anxiety neurosis; dysthymic disorder; mood disorder; sexual dysfunction; psychosexual dysfunction; schizophrenia; manic depression; delirium; dementia; severe mental retardation and dyskinesias such as Huntington's disease and Tourette syndrome; diabetes; appetite/taste disorders; vomiting/nausea; asthma; Parkinson's disease; Cushing's syndrome/disease; basophil adenoma; prolactinoma; hyperprolactinemia; hypopituitarism; hypophysis tumour/adenoma; hypothalamic diseases; inflammatory bowel disease; gastric dyskinesia; gastric ulcers; Froehlich's syndrome; hypophysis diseases, hypothalamic hypogonadism; Kallman's syndrome (anosmia, hyposmia); functional or psychogenic amenorrhea; hypothalamic hypothyroidism; hypothalamic-adrenal dysfunction; idiopathic hyperprolactinemia; hypothalamic disorders of growth hormone deficiency; idiopathic growth deficiency; dwarfism; gigantism; acromegaly; disturbed biological and circadian rhythms; sleep disturbances associated with diseases such as neurological disorders, neuropathic pain and restless leg syndrome; heart and lung diseases, acute and congestive heart failure; hypotension; hypertension; urinary retention; osteoporosis; angina pectoris; myocardial infarction; ischemic or haemorrhagic stroke; subarachnoid haemorrhage; ulcers; allergies; benign prostatic hypertrophy; chronic renal failure; renal disease; impaired glucose tolerance; migraine; pain; enhanced or exaggerated sensitivity to pain such as hyperalgesia, causalgia, and allodynia; acute pain; burn pain; atypical facial pain; neuropathic pain; back pain; complex regional pain syndrome I and II; arthritic pain; sports injury pain; pain related to infection e.g. by HIV; post-chemotherapy pain; poststroke pain; post-operative pain; neuralgia; conditions associated with visceral pain such as irritable bowel syndrome; migraine and angina; urinary bladder incontinence e.g. urge incontinence; tolerance to narcotics or withdrawal from narcotics; sleep disorders; eating disorders; cardiovascular disorders; neurodegenerative disorders; sleep apnea; narcolepsy, insomnia; parasomnia; and neurodegenerative disorders including nosological entities such as disinhibition-dementia-parkinsonism-amyotrophy complex; pallido-ponto-nigral degeneration epilepsy; seizure disorders and other diseases related to general orexin system dysfunctions.

Compounds of the general formula (I) are particularly suitable for use in the treatment of diseases or disorders selected from the group consisting of eating disorders or sleep disorders.

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Eating disorders may be defined as comprising metabolic dysfunction; dysregulated appetite control; compulsive obesities; emeto-bulimia or anorexia nervosa. This pathologically modified food intake may result from disturbed appetite (attraction or aversion for food); altered energy balance (intake vs expenditure); disturbed perception of food quality (high fat or carbohydrates, high palatability); disturbed food availability (unrestricted diet or deprivation) or disrupted water balance.

Sleep disorders include insomnias, narcolepsy and other disorders of excessive sleepiness, sleep-related dystonias; restless leg syndrome; sleep apneas; jet-lag syndrome; shift-work syndrome, delayed or advanced sleep phase syndrome. Insomnias are defined as comprising sleep disorders associated with aging; intermittent treatment of chronic insomnia; situational transient insomnia (new environment, noise) or short-term insomnia due to stress; grief; pain or illness.

The compounds of formula (I) and their pharmaceutically usable salts can be used as medicament (e.g. in the form of pharmaceutical preparations). The pharmaceutical preparations can be administered enterally, such as orally (e.g. in the form of tablets, coated tablets, dragées, hard and soft gelatine capsules, solutions, emulsions or suspensions), nasally (e.g. in the form of nasal sprays) or rectally (e.g. in the form of suppositories). However, the administration can also be effected parenterally, such as intramuscularly or intravenously (e.g. in the form of injection solutions), or topically, e.g. in the form of ointments, creams or oils.

The compounds of formula (I) and their pharmaceutically usable salts can be processed with pharmaceutically inert, inorganic or organic adjuvants for the production of tablets, coated tablets, dragées, and hard gelatine capsules. Lactose, cornstarch or derivatives thereof, talc, stearic acid or its salts etc. can be used, for example, as such adjuvants for tablets, dragées, and hard gelatine capsules. Suitable adjuvants for soft gelatine capsules, are, for example, vegetable oils, waxes, fats, semi-solid substances and

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liquid polyols, etc. Suitable adjuvants for the production of solutions and syrups are, for example, water, polyols, saccharose, invert sugar, glucose, etc. Suitable adjuvants for injection solutions are, for example, water, alcohols, polyols, glycerol, vegetable oils, etc. Suitable adjuvants for suppositories are, for example, natural or hardened oils, waxes, fats, semi-solid or liquid polyols, etc.

Moreover, the pharmaceutical preparations can contain preservatives, solubilizers, viscosity-increasing substances, stabilisers, wetting agents, emulsifiers, sweeteners, colorants, flavorants, salts for varying the osmotic pressure, buffers, masking agents or antioxidants. The compounds of formula (I) may also be used in combination with one or more other therapeutically useful substances. Examples are anorectic drugs like fenfluramine and related substances; lipase inhibitors like or listat and related substances; antidepressants like fluoxetine and related substances; anxiolytics like alprazolam and related substances; sleep-inducers like zopiclone and related substances; or any other therapeutically useful substance.

The dosage of compounds of formula (I) can vary within wide limits depending on the disease to be controlled, the age and the individual condition of the patient and the mode of administration, and will, of course, be fitted to the individual requirements in each particular case. For adult patients a daily dosage of about 1 mg to 1000 mg, especially about 50 mg to about 500 mg, comes into consideration.

The pharmaceutical preparations conveniently contain about 1 - 500 mg, preferably 5 - 200 mg of a compound of formula (I).

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The compounds of formula (I) of the present invention are prepared according to the general sequence of reactions outlined in the schemes below, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup> are as defined in formula (I) above. As the case may be any compound obtained with one or more optically active carbon atom may be resolved into pure enantiomers or diastereoisomers, mixtures of enantiomers or diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-forms in a manner known per se.

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The compounds obtained may also be converted into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in a manner known per se.

The compounds of formula (I) may be prepared as single compounds or as libraries of compounds comprising at least 2, typically 5 to 100 compounds of formula (I).

Compound libraries are prepared by multiple parallel synthesis using solution phase chemistry.

The compounds of formula (I) can be prepared as mixtures of all possible stereoisomers by following one of three possible synthetic pathways (Scheme 1). The first pathway starts with the reaction of the respective 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline with a methyl bromoacetate derivative. After saponification of the ester the obtained acid is coupled with ammonium bromide in the presence of EDC and DMAP to give the desired amides of formula (I).

$$R^{2} \xrightarrow{R^{1}} NH$$

$$R^{2} \xrightarrow{R^{1}} NH_{2}$$

$$R^{3} \xrightarrow{R^{4}} R^{5}$$

$$R^{6}CHO, NaCN$$

$$Na_{2}S_{2}O_{5}$$

$$R^{4} \xrightarrow{R^{5}} R^{6}$$

$$R^{2} \xrightarrow{R^{4}} R^{5}$$

$$R^{6} \xrightarrow{R$$

In a second pathway the 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline is reacted with an aldehyde and sodium cyanide to give the corresponding α-amino acetonitrile derivatives. These can be

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hydrolysed with hydrogen peroxide and potassium carbonate as base. In the case of the unsubstituted glycinamide analogues ( $R^6 = H$ ) the final compounds of general formula (I) can be obtained by reaction of the 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline with commercially available 2-bromo-acetamide. The 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolines, if not commercially available, can be prepared as racemic mixtures from the corresponding phenylethylamines by coupling with the desired carboxylic acid followed by treatment with POCl<sub>3</sub> and finally NaBH<sub>4</sub> (see experimental part).

The stereoselective synthesis of the desired 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline derivatives is possible following one of the synthetic pathways shown in scheme 2. The key-intermediates, the 1-arylethyl-substituted 3,4-dihydroisoquinolines (R<sup>11</sup> = aryl), can be obtained either by cyclisation of N-arylethyl-propionamides with POCl<sub>3</sub> or by alkylation of 1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivatives with arylmethyl bromides or chlorides. These intermediates can be reduced to enantiomerically enriched 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline derivatives by transfer hydrogenation in the presence of a chiral Ru(II) complex (chiral catalyst), which was originally described by R. Noyori et al. (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1996, 118, 4916-4917 and WO 97/20789).

Scheme 2

5 The chiral catalyst (Ru(II) complex) used is as follows:

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As illustrated in *scheme 3* enantiomerically enriched 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline intermediates can be converted to compounds of formula (I) by alkylation with tosylated  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acetamides. With racemic tosylates mixtures of diastereoisomers of formula (I) are

obtained. Optically pure tosylates lead to essentially only one diastereoisomer. These can be prepared in a two step procedure starting from a single enantiomer of a 2-substituted methyl glycolate derivative by amidation and tosylation.

$$R^{2}$$

$$R^{3}$$

$$R^{4}$$

$$R^{5}$$

$$R^{6}$$

$$R^{5}$$

$$R^{6}$$

$$R^{2}$$

$$R^{5}$$

$$R^{6}$$

$$R^{7}$$

$$R^{6}$$

$$R^{7}$$

$$R^{7}$$

$$R^{8}$$

$$R^{4}$$

$$R^{1}$$

$$R^{5}$$

$$R^{6}$$

$$R^{7}$$

$$R^{7}$$

$$R^{8}$$

$$R^{1}$$

$$R^{3}$$

$$R^{4}$$

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$$R^{4}$$

$$R^{1}$$

$$R^{2}$$

$$R^{3}$$

$$R^{4}$$

$$R^{5}$$

$$R^{5$$

Scheme 3

The 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline derivatives exemplified in this invention may be prepared from readily available starting materials using the following general methods and procedures. It will be appreciated that where typical or preferred experimental conditions (i.e., reaction temperatures, time, moles of reagents, solvents, etc.) are given, other experimental conditions can also be used unless otherwise stated. Optimum reaction conditions may vary with the particular reactants or solvents used, but such conditions can be determined by one skilled in the art using routine optimisation procedures.

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## **Experimental Section**

## Abbreviations:

5	BSA	Bovine serum albumine
	CHO	Chinese hamster ovary
	d	day(s)
	dia	diastereoisomer
	DCM	Dichloromethane
10	DIPEA	Diisopropylethylamine
	DMAP	Dimethylaminopyridine
	DMF	N,N-dimethylformamide
	DMSO	Dimethylsulfoxide
	EDC	1-(3-Dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide
15	ES	Electron spray
	FCS	Foetal calf serum
	FLIPR	Fluorescent imaging plate reader
	h	Hour(s)
	HBSS	Hank's balanced salt solution
20	HEPES	4-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-piperazine-1-ethanesulfonic acid
	HPLC	High pressure/performance liquid chromatography
	MS	Mass spectroscopy
	LC	Liquid chromatography
	LDA	Lithium diisopropylamide
25	min	Minute(s)
	prep	preparative
	rt	retention time
	RT	Room temperature
	sat	saturated
30	THF	Tetrahydrofuran

### L. Biology

Determination of Orexin receptor antagonistic activity

The Orexin receptor antagonistic activity of the compounds of formula (I) is determined in accordance with the following experimental method.

#### 5 Experimental method:

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#### Intracellular calcium measurements

Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells expressing the human orexin-1 receptor and the human orexin-2 receptor, respectively, are grown in culture medium (Ham F-12 with L-Glutamine) containing 300 µg/ml G418, 100 U/ml penicillin, 100 µg/ml streptomycin and 10 % inactivated foetal calf serum (FCS).

The cells are seeded at 80'000 cells / well into 96-well black clear bottom sterile plates (Costar) which have been precoated with 1% gelatine in Hanks' Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS). All reagents are from Gibco BRL.

The seeded plates were incubated overnight at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub>.

Human orexin-A as an agonist is prepared as 1 mM stock solution in methanol:water (1:1), diluted in HBSS containing 0.1 % bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 2 mM HEPES for use in the assay at a final concentration of 10 nM.

Antagonists are prepared as 10 mM stock solution in DMSO, then diluted in 96-well plates, first in DMSO, then in HBSS containing 0.1 % bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 2 mM HBPES.

On the day of the assay, 100 µl of loading medium (HBSS containing 1% FCS, 2 mM HEPES, 5 mM probenecid (Sigma) and 3 µM of the fluorescent calcium indicator fluo-3 AM (1 mM stock solution in DMSO with 10% pluronic acid) (Molecular Probes) is added to each well.

The 96-well plates are incubated for 60 min at 37° C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. The loading solution is then aspirated and cells are washed 3 times with 200  $\mu$ l HBSS containing 2.5 mM probenecid, 0.1% BSA, 2 mM HEPES. 100  $\mu$ l of that same buffer is left in each well.

Within the Fluorescent Imaging Plate Reader (FLIPR, Molecular Devices), antagonists are added to the plate in a volume of 50 µl, incubated for 20 min and finally 100 µl of agonist is added. Fluorescence is measured for each well at 1 second intervals, and the height of each fluorescence peak is compared to the height of the fluorescence peak induced by 10 nM orexin-A with buffer in place of antagonist. For each antagonist, IC<sub>50</sub> value (the concentration of compound needed to inhibit 50 % of the agonistic response) is

determined. The compounds exhibit as an average an antagonistic activity regarding the OX<sub>1</sub> and OX<sub>2</sub> receptor in the range of an IC<sub>50</sub> of 1 to 100 nM.

#### 5 II. Chemistry

The following examples illustrate the preparation of pharmacologically active compounds of the invention but do not at all limit the scope thereof.

All temperatures are stated in °C.

All analytical and preparative HPLC investigations on non-chiral phases are performed using RP-C18 based columns. Analytical HPLC investigations are performed on two different instruments with cycle-times of ~2.5 min and ~13 min respectively. For HPLC separations on chiral phases a Chiralcel OD column from Daicel Chemical Industries is used.

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#### A Synthesis of Phenylethylamide Derivatives:

#### Procedure 1:

A solution of the respective phenylethylamine (82.8 mmol) and the respective carboxylic acid (82.8 mmol) in toluene (330 mL) is treated with 2 crystals of ptoluenesulfonic acid and refluxed for 14 h in the presence of a Dean-Stark. The solvent is removed in vacuo and the residue is recrystalized from toluene to give the following amides:

N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-naphthalen-2-yl-acetamide

prepared by reaction of 3,4-dimethoxyphenylethylamine and 2-naphthylacetic acid.

3-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide:

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-prepared by reaction of 3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 0.89 min, 374 (M+1, ES+).

## N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)propionamide:

prepared by reaction of 3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: t = 1.03 min, 382 (M+1, ES+).

#### N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-acetic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 4.11 min, 318 (M+1, ES+).

#### Procedure 2:

A solution of the respective carboxylic acid (11.0 mmol) in THF (20 mL) is treated with EDC hydrochloride (11.0 mmol). After 5 min the respective amine (11.0 mmol) is added and the reaction mixture is stirred for 14 h. Ethyl acetate is added and the organic layer is washed with sat. aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, 10% aqueous citric acid solution and brine. The organic layer is dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered.

After evaporation of the solvents the following crude amides are obtained which are used in the following step without further purification:

#### 3-(3,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide:

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prepared by reaction of 3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

3-[2,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide:

prepared by reaction of 3-[2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxyphenylethylamine.

3-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide:

prepared by reaction of 3-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-propionamide:

prepared by reaction of 3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxyphenylethylamine.

N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-propionamide:

prepared by reaction of 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

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## $\hbox{$3$-(2,3$-Difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4$-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-acrylamide:}$

prepared by reaction of 3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-acrylic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

## N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of 2-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

#### $\hbox{$3$-(2,3$-Difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4$-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide:}$

prepared by reaction of 3-(2,3-difluorophenyl)-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxyphenylethylamine.

#### N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-propion a mide:

prepared by reaction of 3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxyphenylethylamine.

#### 3-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-acrylamide:

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prepared by reaction of 3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-acrylic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

#### Procedure 3:

To a solution of the respective carboxylic acid (21.4 mmol) in DMF (110 mL) is added successively PyBOP (23.6 mmol), 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine (21.4 mmol) and N-diisopropylethylamine (49.3 mmol). After stirring for 8 h at RT ethyl acetate (100 mL) is added and the organic layer is washed three times with brine (3x70 mL). The organic layer is dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The solvent is removed in vacuo und the residue is purified by flash-chromatography (DCM/MeOH 36/1) to give the following amides:

#### N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-furan-2-yl-propionamide:

prepared by reaction of 3-furan-2-yl-propionic acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 3.96 min, 304 (M+1, ES+).

#### N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-4-phenyl-butyramide:

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prepared by reaction of 4-phenyl-butyric acid and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethyl-amine.

LC-MS: rt = 4.47 min, 328 (M+1, ES+).

#### Procedure 4:

A solution of the respective phenylethylamine (80 mmol) and of triethylamine (90 mmol) in THF (120 mL) is cooled to 0°C and treated portionwise with the respective carboxylic acid chloride (80 mmol). After stirring for 10 min at 0°C and

for 14 h at RT a sat. aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution is added, the layers are separated and the aqueous layer is extracted three times with ethyl acetate (150 mL). The solvent is removed in vacuo and the residue is either recrystallized from toluene or purified by flash chromatography to give the following amides:

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#### 2-(2,5-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-N-[2-(2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of (2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acetyl chloride and 2,5-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 4.62 min, 360 (M+1, ES+).

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#### N-[2-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of phenyl-acetyl chloride and 3-methoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 4.36 min, 270 (M+1, ES+).

### 2-(2,5-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of (2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acetyl chloride and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 4.11 min, 360 (M+1, ES+).

N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of (4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetyl chloride and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 3.99 min, 330 (M+1, ES+).

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#### N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of (3-methoxy-phenyl)-acetyl chloride and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenylethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 4.03 min, 330 (M+1, ES+).

## N-[2-(2,3-Dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-ethyl]-2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acetamide:

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prepared by reaction of (3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acetyl chloride and 2-(2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-ethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 4.03 min, 358 (M+1, ES+).

#### N-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-phenoxy-acetamide:

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prepared by reaction of phenoxy-acetyl chloride and 3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl-ethylamine.

LC-MS: rt = 4.24 min, 316 (M+1, ES+).

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#### B Synthesis of 3,4-Dihydroisoquinoline Derivatives (general procedure):

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Phosphorus oxychloride (123 mmol) is added to a suspension of the respective amide (55.3 mmol) in acetonitrile (300 mL). The mixture is refluxed for 90 min and the solvents are removed in vacuo. Methanol (100 mL) is added and evaporated again. The obtained product is recrystallized from dioxane or dioxane/ethanol. After filtration the obtained hydrochloride salt is converted to the free base by addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and extraction with dichloromethane. The solvents are removed in vacuo to give the respective 3,4-di-hydroisoquinoline.

## 6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydroiso-quinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 364 (M+1, ES+).

## C Synthesis of 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroisoquinoline Derivatives:

### C.1 Synthesis of 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroisoquinolines via Bischler-Napieralskireaction (general procedure):

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To a suspension of the respective acetamide (6.0 mmol) in acetonitrile (80 mL) is added phosphorus oxychloride (2.8 mL, 30 mmol). The mixture is heated to reflux for 2 h and the solvent is removed in vacuo. The resulting oil is taken up in MeOH (10 mL), evaporated to dryness, dissolved in MeOH (35 mL) and cooled to 0°C. NaBH<sub>4</sub> (30 mmol) is added in small (!) portions and the reaction mixture is stirred for 14 h. The solvent is removed in vacuo, ethyl acetate (100 mL) and water (150 mL) are added, the layers are separated and the aqueous layer is extracted three

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times with ethyl acetate (50 mL). The combined organic extracts are concentrated in vacuo to give the following tetrahydroisoquinolines as racemic mixtures, which are purified by crystallization as hydrochloride salt:

6,7-Dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-naphthalen-2-ylacetamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.75 min, 334 (M+1, ES+), 375 (M+CH<sub>3</sub>CN, ES+).

1-[2-(3,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-

isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of 3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 334 (M+1, ES+), 375 (M+CH<sub>3</sub>CN, ES+).

1-[2-(2,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline:

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prepared by cyclisation of 3-[2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.89 min, 434 (M+1, ES+), 475 (M+CH<sub>3</sub>CN, ES+).

5 1-[2-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of 3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.80 min, 334 (M+1, ES+).

6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 328 (M+1, ES+).

 $1\hbox{-}[2\hbox{-}(4\hbox{-}Fluoro\hbox{-}phenyl)\hbox{-}ethyl]\hbox{-}6,7\hbox{-}dimethoxy\hbox{-}1,2,3,4\hbox{-}tetrahydro\hbox{-}isoquinoline}:$ 

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 316 (M+1, ES+).

5 1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of 3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-acrylamide.

10 LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 332 (M+1, ES+).

1-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.78 min, 332 (M+1, ES+).

1-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of 3-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.76 min, 358 (M+1, ES+).

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## 1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of 3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-propionamide.

LC-MS: t = 0.80 min, 334 (M+1, ES+).

## 6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoguinoline:

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prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(4-trifluoro-methyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

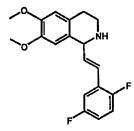
LC-MS: rt = 0.85 min, 366 (M+1, ES+).

## 6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.79 min, 328 (M+1, ES+).

## 1-[2-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:



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prepared by cyclisation of 3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-acrylamide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.80 min, 332 (M+1, ES+).

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### $\hbox{\bf 1-(2-Furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquino line:}$

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-furan-2-yl-propionamide.

LC-MS: rt = 2.70 min, 288 (M+1, ES+).

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### 1-(2,5-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-5,8-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared by cyclisation of 2-(2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-N-[2-(2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-acetamide.

LC-MS: rt = 3.57 min, 344 (M+1, ES+).

### ${\bf 1\text{--}Benzyl-6\text{--}methoxy-1,2,3,4\text{--}tetrahydro-isoquinoline:}\\$

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-phenyl-acetamide.

LC-MS: rt = 3.12 min, 254 (M+1, ES+).

## $\hbox{\bf 1-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquino line:}$

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-acetamide.

LC-MS: t = 3.05 min, 302 (M+1, ES+).

## 1-(2,5-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

20 prepared by cyclisation of 2-(2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-acetamide.

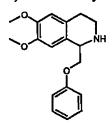
LC-MS: rt = 3.18 min, 344 (M+1, ES+).

#### 6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetamide.

LC-MS: rt = 3.01 min, 314 (M+1, ES+).

### 6,7-Dimethoxy-1-phenoxymethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:



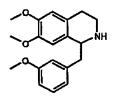
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prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-phenoxy-acetamide.

LC-MS: t = 3.02 min, 300 (M+1, ES+).

### 6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:



prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-acetamide.

LC-MS: rt = 3.04 min, 314 (M+1, ES+).

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6-(3,4-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-2,3,6,7,8,9-hexahydro-[1,4]dioxino[2,3-g]isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-ethyl]-2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acetamide.

LC-MS: rt = 3.07 min, 342 (M+1, ES+).

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#### 6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared by cyclisation of N-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-4-phenyl-butyr-amide.

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LC-MS: rt = 3.15 min, 312 (M+1, ES+).

# C.2 Stereoselective Synthesis of 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroisoquinoline Derivatives via Transfer Hydrogenation (general procedure):

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Dichloro-(p-cymene)ruthenium (II) dimer (0.20 mmol) is added to a solution of N-((1R,2R)-2-amino-1,2-diphenyl-ethyl)-2,4,6-trimethylbenzene-sulfonamide (0.40 mmol) and triethylamine (0.80 mmol) in acetonitrile (3.0 mL). The mixture is stirred for 1h at 80°C and added to a solution of the respective dihydroisoquinoline (28.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (30 mL). An azeotropic mixture of formic acid and triethylamine (5:2, 14 mL) is added (gas evolution). After 90 min a sat aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (200 mL) is added to the dark red solution. The layers are separated, the aqueous layer is extracted twice with DCM (2x200 mL) and the combined organic extracts are concentrated in vacuo. The residue is dissolved in isopropanol (1600 mL) and treated with a solution of HCl in isopropanol (5-6 M, 10 mL). The obtained hydrochloride salt is recrystallized to give the respective 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline with high enantiomeric excess as determined by

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chiral HPLC. The hydrochloride salt is converted to the free base by extraction with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution/dichloromethane. The absolute configuration of the respective product is assigned in analogy to the literature (N. Uematsu, A. Fujii, S. Hashiguchi, T. Ikariya, R. Noyori, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1996, 118, 4916-4917).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline:

prepared by transfer hydrogenation of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.80 min, 366 (M+1, ES+).

chiral HPLC: rt = 12.0 min (hexane/ethanol 9/1; enantiomer: rt = 17.1 min).

C.3 Stereoselective Synthesis of 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroisoquinoline Derivatives via Alkylation of 1-Methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinolines (general procedure):

At 0°C a solution of n-BuLi in hexane (1.6M, 0.63 mmol) is added drop wise to a mixture of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (0.50 mmol) and disopropylamine (0.63 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL). The reaction mixture is stirred at RT for 1h and added at 0°C to a solution of the respective benzyl bromide (0.50 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL). The solution is stirred for 1h, warmed up to RT and diluted with DCM (3.0 mL).

In a second flask dichloro(p-cymene)ruthenium (II) dimer (0.15 mmol) is added to a solution of N-((1R,2R)-2-amino-1,2-diphenyl-ethyl)-2,4,6-trimethyl-benzene-sulfonamide (0.30 mmol) and triethylamine (0.60 mmol) in acetonitrile (3.3 mL). The mixture is stirred for 1h at 80°C. A portion of this solution (0.10 mL) is added to the solution of the respective dihydroisoquinoline (described above). An azeotropic mixture of formic acid and triethylamine (5:2, 0.3 mL) is added (gas

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evolution). After 2d the mixture is concentrated in vacuo and purified by prep. HPLC to give the respective 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline.

The absolute configuration of the respective product is assigned in analogy to the literature (N. Uematsu, A. Fujii, S. Hashiguchi, T. Ikariya, R. Noyori, J. Am. Chem. Soc 1996, 118, 4916-4917).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methyl-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2-chloro-methyl-1-methyl-4-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 380 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-3-chloro-2-fluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.80 min, 350 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 4-bromo-methyl-2-fluoro-1-methyl-benzene.

5 LC-MS: rt = 0.80 min, 330 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-4-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(5-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2-bromomethyl-4-fluoro-1-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

5 (S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2-bromomethyl-1-fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 4-bromo-methyl-2-fluoro-1-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

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(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 4-bromomethyl-1-fluoro-2-methyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.80 min, 330 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2,3,5-trifluoro-benzene.

15 LC-MS: rt = 0.78 min, 352 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 4-bromomethyl-1-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

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 $\textbf{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-dimeth$ tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: t = 0.83 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

 $\textbf{(S)-1-[2-(5-Chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-dimeth$ tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2-bromomethyl-4-chloro-1-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 400 (M+1, ES+).

5 (S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

NH.

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2-fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

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(S)-1-[2-(2-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6, 7-dimethoxy-1, 2, 3, 4-tetrahydroisoquino line:

5 prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-2-difluoromethoxy-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.78 min, 364 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-3-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(2-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6, 7-dimethoxy-1, 2, 3, 4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 400 (M+1, ES+).

5 (S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-6-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2-bromo-methyl-1-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: t = 0.79 min, 384 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 4-bromomethyl-1-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.85 min, 400 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2,3-difluoro-4-methyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.80 min, 348 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(4-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-4-difluoromethoxy-benzene.

15 LC-MS: rt = 0.79 min, 364 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 4-chloro-methyl-1,2-dimethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.79 min, 326 (M+1, ES+).

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(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6, 7-dimethoxy-1, 2, 3, 4-tetra hydroisoquino line:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2-chloro-4-chloromethyl-1-methyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.79 min, 346 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(2-Chloro-6-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-chloro-2-chloromethyl-3-fluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.76 min, 350 (M+1, ES+).

#### 5 (S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-o-tolyl-ethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2-methyl-benzene.

10 LC-MS: rt = 0.77 min, 312 (M+1, ES+).

#### (S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-m-tolyi-ethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-3-methyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.78 min, 312 (M+1, ES+).

#### (S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-p-tolyl-ethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-4-methyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.78 min, 312 (M+1, ES+).

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(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2-fluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.74 min, 316 (M+1, ES+).

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(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-3-fluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.75 min, 316 (M+1, ES+).

 $\textbf{(S)-1-[2-(2,6-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-phenyl-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-phenyl-ethyll-6,7-dimethox-phenyl-ethyll-6,7-d$ 5 isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1,3-dichloro-2-chloromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.79 min, 366 (M+1, ES+).

 $\textbf{(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-phenyl)-ethyl-fine the second statement of the seco$ isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1,2-dichloro-4-chloromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: t = 1.19 min, 366 (M+1, ES+).

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(S)-1-[2-(3,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-3,5-dimethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: t = 1.15 min, 326 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS:  $\pi = 1.11 \text{ min}$ , 366 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2,4-difluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: t = 0.85 min, 334 (M+1, ES+).

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# (S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,6-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2-bromo-methyl-1,3,4-trifluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 352 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-4-trifluoromethoxy-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.93 min, 382 (M+1, ES+).

5 (S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2-fluoro-3-methyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 330 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-4-chloro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 332 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-3-chloro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 332 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-3-trifluoromethoxy-benzene.

15 LC-MS: rt = 0.92 min, 382 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 5-bromomethyl-1,2,3-trifluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 352 (M+1, ES+).

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(S)-6, 7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1, 2, 3, 4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 366 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,4-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-2,3,4-trifluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 352 (M+1, ES+).

5 (S)-1-[2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 4-bromo-1-bromomethyl-2-fluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.90 min, 394 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(2,6-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

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prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2-bromomethyl-1,3-difluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 334 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-2-trifluoromethoxy-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.90 min, 382 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 2,4-dichloro-1-chloromethyl-benzene.

15 LC-MS: rt = 0.92 min, 366 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,4,5-trifluoro-phenyi)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-methyl-2,4,5-trifluoro-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 352 (M+1, ES+).

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(S)-1-[2-(3-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-3-bromomethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: t = 0.89 min, 376 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromomethyl-4-tert-butyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.98 min, 354 (M+1, ES+).

5 (S)-1-[2-(2-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-2-bromomethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: t = 0.87 min, 376 (M+1, ES+).

(S)-1-[2-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline:

prepared from 6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro-isoquinoline and 1-bromo-4-bromomethyl-benzene.

LC-MS: rt = 0.89 min, 376 (M+1, ES+).

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D Synthesis of (3,4-Dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-acetic acid derivatives:

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### D.1 Synthesis of acetic acid methyl ester derivatives (general procedure):

Potassium tert-butoxide (5.0 mmol) is added to a suspension of the respective tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride (5.0 mmol) in THF (50 mL). After 5 min DIPEA (10.0 mmol) and the respective methyl bromoacetate (5.0 mmol) are added. The reaction mixture is stirred at 60°C for 14 h. Water (80 mL) and ethyl acetate (150 mL) are added, the layers are separated and the aqueous layer is extracted three times with ethyl acetate (50 mL each). The combined organic extracts are dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent is removed in vacuo. The following esters that are used in the next step without further purification are obtained as mixtures of racemic diastereoisomers:

(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)phenyl-acetic acid methyl ester:

prepared by reaction of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.89 min (dia 1), 0.92 min (dia 2), 482 (M+1, ES+).

{1-[2-(3,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid methyl ester:

prepared by reaction of 1-[2-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.89 min, 482 (M+1, ES+).

[1-(2-Furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid methyl ester:

prepared by reaction of 1-(2-furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 4.53 min, 436 (M+1, ES+).

[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid methyl ester:

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prepared by reaction of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: dia1: rt = 5.04, 460 (M+1, ES+); dia2: rt = 5.44, 460 (M+1, ES+).

#### 15 D.2 Synthesis of acetic acid derivatives (general procedure):

A solution of the respective ester (5.0 mmol) in MeOH (200 mL) is treated with sodium hydroxide solution (1.0 M, 30 mL), stirred at 60°C for 16 h and concentrated in vacuo to a volume of about 40 mL. Sodium hydroxide solution (1.0 M, 50 mL) and ethyl acetate (100 mL) are added, the layers are separated and the aqueous layer is extracted three times with ethyl acetate (100 mL each). The combined organic extracts are concentrated in vacuo. The residue is purified either by crystallization from ethyl acetate or by prep. HPLC to give the following acetic acid derivatives as mixtures of racemic diastereoisomers:

25 (6,7-Dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by saponification of (6,7-dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-phenyl-acetic acid methyl ester.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min (dia 1), 0.85 min (dia 2), 468 (M+1, ES+).

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 $\{1-[2-(3,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-phenyl-acetic acid: \\$ 

prepared by saponification of {1-[2-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid methyl ester.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 468 (M+1, ES+).

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[1-(2-Furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid:

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prepared by saponification of [1-(2-furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid methyl ester.

LC-MS: rt = 3.68 min, 422 (M+1, ES+).

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[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenylacetic acid:

prepared by saponification of [6,7-dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid methyl ester.

LC-MS: rt = 4.14, 446 (M+1, ES+).

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#### D.3 One-pot Synthesis of acetic acid derivatives (general procedure):

A solution of potassium tert-butoxide (0.30 mmol) in THF (0.50 mL) is added to the respective tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride (0.30 mmol). After 5 min DIPEA (0.60 mmol) and a solution of the respective methyl bromoacetate (0.30 mmol) in THF (0.50 mL) are added. The reaction mixture is stirred at 60°C for 14 h. An aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide (3.0 mmol, 1.5 mL) and ethanol (0.5 mL) are added and the mixture is shaken vigorously at 60°C over night. The layers are separated, the solvent is removed in vacuo and the residue is purified by prep. HPLC to give the following acetic acid derivatives as mixtures of racemic diastereoisomers:

(1-Benzyl-6-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 1-benzyl-6-methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: t = 0.81 min (dia 1), 0.82 min (dia 2), 388 (M+1, ES+).

{1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 1-[2-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 468 (M+1, ES+).

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## [1-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenylacetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 1-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: t = 0.78 min (dia 1), 0.79 min (dia 2), 436 (M+1, ES+).

## [1-(2,5-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid:

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prepared by reaction of 1-(2,5-dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.78 min (dia 1), 0.82 min (dia 2), 478 (M+1, ES+).

20 {6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 500 (M+1, ES+).

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{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dlhydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 462 (M+1, ES+).

[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid:

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prepared by reaction of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.77 min (dia 1), 0.79 min (dia 2), 448 (M+1, ES+).

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{1-[2-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 1-[2-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 468 (M+1, ES+).

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{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 462 (M+1, ES+).

{1-[2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid:

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prepared by reaction of 1-[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 450 (M+1, ES+).

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{1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 1-[2-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 466 (M+1, ES+).

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[1-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 1-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS:  $rt = 0.77 \min (dia 1), 0.79 \min (dia 2), 466 (M+1, ES+).$ 

 $\{1-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1 H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-phenyl-acetic acid: \\$ 

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prepared by reaction of 1-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.77 min, 492 (M+1, ES+).

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[1-(2,5-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-5,8-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 1-(2,5-dimethoxy-benzyl)-5,8-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min (dia 1), 0.89 min (dia 2), 478 (M+1, ES+).

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{1-[2-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 1-[2-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 466 (M+1, ES+).

(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-phenoxymethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-phenylacetic acid:

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prepared by reaction of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-phenoxymethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.80 min (dia 1), 0.81 min (dia 2), 434 (M+1, ES+).

20 [6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 6,7-dimethoxy-1-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.77 min (dia 1), 0.79 min (dia 2), 448 (M+1, ES+).

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# [6-(3,4-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-6H-[1,4]dioxino[2,3-g]isoquinolin-7-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid:

prepared by reaction of 6-(3,4-dimethoxy-benzyl)-2,3,6,7,8,9-hexahydro-[1,4]dioxino[2,3-g]isoquinoline with methyl  $\alpha$ -bromophenylacetate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.77 min (dia 1), 0.79 min (dia 2), 476 (M+1, ES+).

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## E Synthesis of (3,4-Dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-acetonitrile derivatives (general procedure):

To a solution of sodium metabisulfite (5.7 mmol) in water (20 mL) is added the respective aldehyde (10.7 mmol), methanol (1.5 mL) and sodium cyanide (11.0 mmol). After 15 min a solution of the respective tetrahydroisoquinoline (10.7 mmol) in methanol (15 mL) is added and the mixture is stirred for 3 h. Water (50 mL) and ethyl acetate (50 mL) are added, the layers are separated and the aqueous layer is extracted twice with ethyl acetate (50 mL each). The combined organic extracts are concentrated in vacuo to give the following acetonitrile derivatives which are used in the next step without further purification as mixtures of racemic diastereoisomers:

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(2-Chloro-phenyl)-[1-(3,4-dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-acetonitrile:

prepared by reaction of tetrahydropapaverine with 2-chlorobenzaldehyde.

LC-MS: rt = 1.23 min, 493 (M+1, ES+).

#### F Synthesis of Tosylated Mandelamide Derivatives:

#### F.1 Synthesis of Toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester:

To a suspension of mandelamide (25 mmol) and DMAP (2.0 mmol) in DCM (200 mL) DIPEA (27.5 mmol) is added. The mixture is treated portion wise with p-

toluenesulfonyl chloride (27.5 mmol) and stirred for 20 h. The solvents are removed in vacuo. The residue is diluted with ethyl acetate (350 mL) and washed

three times with sat. NaHCO3 solution (3x150 mL) and once with brine (100 mL).

The organic extracts are dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue is recrystallized from ethyl acetate/heptane 4/1 to give the desired tosylate

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 306 (M+1, ES+).

#### 20 F.2 Synthesis of (S)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-acetamide:

as white crystals.

Methyl (S)-(+)-mandelate (120 mmol) is dissolved in a solution of ammonia in methanol (7.0 M, 1.2 mol) at RT. After 1 d nitrogen is bubbled through the solution for 30 min and the solvents are removed in vacuo to give the desired amide as a white solid.

LC-MS: t = 0.33 min, 152 (M+1, ES+).

# F.3 Synthesis of (S)-Toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester:

To a solution of (S)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-acetamide (120 mmol) in dioxane (200 mL) are added DIPEA (133 mmol) and DMAP (10 mmol). A solution of ptoluenesulfonyl chloride (121 mmol) in dioxane (50 mL) is added at RT. After 1 d ethyl acetate (400 mL) is added and the organic layer is washed several times with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution. Silica gel (50 g) is added, the solvents are removed in vacuo and the residue is purified by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/heptane 1:2) to give the desired tosylate.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 306 (M+1, ES+).

## G Synthesis of substituted and unsubstituted glycinamide derivatives:

## G.1 Synthesis of unsubstituted glycinamides (general procedure):

To a suspension of the respective tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride (0.1 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) is added a solution of DIPEA (0.3 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) and a solution of 2-bromoacetamide (0.1 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL). The suspension is stirred at 65°C for 14 h, the solvent is removed in vacuo and the residue is purified by prep. HPLC to give the following amides as racemic mixtures:

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#### Example 1:

2-{1-[2-(2,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of 1-[2-(2,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline with 2-bromoacetamide.

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LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 491 (M+1, ES+).

# G.2 Synthesis of racemic α-substituted glycinamides via acetic acid derivatives (general procedure):

To a solution of the respective carboxylic acid (3.8 mmol) in DCM (40 mL) is added DMAP (15 mmol) and EDC x HCl (5.7 mmol). After 5 min ammonium bromide (5.0 mmol) is added and the reaction mixture is stirred for 14 h. Water (100 mL) is added, the layers are separated and the aqueous layer is extracted three times with ethyl acetate (100 mL each). The combined organic extracts are concentrated in vacuo and the residue is purified by prep. HPLC to give the following amide derivatives as mixtures of racemic diastereoisomers:

#### Example 2:

2-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of (6,7-dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 467 (M+1, ES+).

# Example 3:

 $2-\{1-[2-(3,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of {1-[2-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 467 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 4:

2-[1-(2-Furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of [1-(2-furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 3.54 min, 421 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 5:

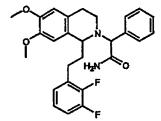
2-(1-Benzyl-6-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of (1-benzyl-6-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 387 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 6:

2-{1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:



prepared by reaction of {1-[2-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: t = 0.83 min, 467 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 7:

2-[1-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of [1-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.79 min, 435 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 8:

2-[1-(2,5-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of [1-(2,5-dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.79 min (dia 1), 0.80 min (dia 2), 477 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 9:

2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of {6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide. LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 499 (M+1, ES+).

## 5 Example 10:

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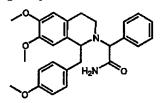
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2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of  $\{6,7\text{-dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide. LC-MS: <math>rt = 0.81 \text{ min}$ , 461 (M+1, ES+).

## Example11:

2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:



prepared by reaction of [6,7-dimethoxy-1-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.78 min, 447 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 12:

2-{1-[2-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of {1-[2-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide. LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 467 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 13:

2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

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prepared by reaction of {6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide. LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 461 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 14:

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2-{1-[2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of {1-[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

20 LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 449 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 15:

2-{1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of {1-[2-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 465 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 16:

2-[1-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yI]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of [1-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.79 min, 465 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 17:

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 $2-\{1-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide: \\$ 

prepared by reaction of {1-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide. LC-MS: rt = 0.76 min (dia 1), 0.78 min (dia 2), 491 (M+1, ES+).

## 5 Example 18:

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2-[1-(2,5-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-5,8-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of [1-(2,5-dimethoxy-benzyl)-5,8-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 477 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 19:

2-{1-[2-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of {1-[2-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide. LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 465 (M+1, HS+).

# Example 20:

2-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-phenoxymethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of (6,7-dimethoxy-1-phenoxymethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 433 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 21:

2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of [6,7-dimethoxy-1-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: t = 0.78 min (dia 1), 0.79 min (dia 2), 447 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 22:

2-[6-(3,4-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-6H-[1,4]dioxino[2,3-g]isoquinolin-7-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of [6-(3,4-dimethoxy-benzyl)-2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-6H-[1,4]dioxino[2,3-g]isoquinolin-7-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide. LC-MS: rt = 0.77 min (dia 1), 0.78 min (dia 2), 475 (M+1, ES+).

Example 23:

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2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of [6,7-dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-phenyl-acetic acid with ammonium bromide.

LC-MS: rt = 3.83 min, 445 (M+1, ES+).

# G.3 Synthesis of racemic α-substituted glycinamides via acetonitrile derivatives (general procedure):

The crude acetonitrile derivative (10.7 mmol) is dissolved in DMSO (25 mL). Potassium carbonate (4.6 mmol) and hydrogen peroxide solution (30%, 1.8 mL) are added and the mixture is stirred for 21 h. Water (50 mL) and ethyl acetate (100 mL) are added, the layers are separated and the aqueous layer is extracted twice with ethyl acetate (100 mL each). The combined organic extracts are concentrated in vacuo and the residue is purified by flash chromatography to give the following glycinamide derivatives as mixtures of racemic diastereoisomers:

#### Example 24:

2-(2-Chloro-phenyl)-2-[1-(3,4-dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-acetamide:

prepared by saponification of (2-chloro-phenyl)-[1-(3,4-dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-acetonitrile.

25 LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 511 (M+1, ES+).

G.4 Synthesis of α-substituted glycinamides via alkylation of enantiomerically enriched 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolines with racemic tosylates (general procedure):

DIPEA (0.300 mmol) and toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester (0.125 mmol) are added to a solution of the respective enantiomerically enriched 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline derivative (0.125 mmol) in THF (2.0 mL). The mixture is refluxed for 4 d and cooled to RT. The obtained mixture of enantiomerically enriched diastereoisomers is separated by prep. HPLC to give the following amides; datas are given for the more polar (HPLC) and more active (IC<sub>50</sub>, FLIPR) diastereoisomer:

## Example 25:

 $(R)-2-\{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methyl-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methyl-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.90 min, 513 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 26:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-chloro-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 483 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 27:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-fluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: t = 0.85 min, 463 (M+1, ES+).

#### 15 **Example 28:**

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 29:

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(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(5-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(5-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 30:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 31:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 32:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.85 min, 463 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 33:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 485 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 34:

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(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 35:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 36:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(5-Chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(5-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.90 min, 533 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 37:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

#### 15 Example 38:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 39:

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(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 497 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 40:

10 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 41:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.89 min, 533 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 42:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-6-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 517 (M+1, ES+).

## 15 **Example 43:**

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.90 min, 533 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 44:

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 $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2,3-difluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 481 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 45:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: t = 0.84 min, 497 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 46:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3,4-dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 459 (M+1, ES+).

# Example 47:

 $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-chloro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.88 min, 479 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 48:

 $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(2-Chloro-6-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-chloro-6-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.85 min, 483 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 49:

(R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-o-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-(2-o-tolyl-ethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline. LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 445 (M+1, ES+).

# Example 50:

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(R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-m-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yll-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-(2-m-tolyl-ethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 445 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 51:

(R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-p-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]- 2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-(2-p-tolyl-ethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 445 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 52:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 449 (M+1, ES+).

## 15 Example 53:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

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LC-MS: rt = 0.81 min, 449 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 54:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(2,6-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2,6-dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 499 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 55:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.89 min, 499 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 56:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(3,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3,5-dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 459 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 57:

(R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 499 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 58:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: t = 0.83 min, 467 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 59:

(R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,6-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,6-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.83 min, 485 (M+1, ES+).

15 **Example 60:** 

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(R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: t = 0.88 min, 515 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 61:

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(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: t = 0.85 min, 463 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 62:

10 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.85 min, 465 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 63:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.85 min, 465 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 64:

(R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: t = 0.89 min, 515 (M+1, ES+).

## 15 **Example 65:**

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(R)-2- $\{(S)$ -6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.85 min, 485 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 66:

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(R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 499 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 67:

(R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,4-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,4-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: t = 0.85 min, 485 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 68:

 $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-bromo-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 527 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 69:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(2,6-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.82 min, 467 (M+1, ES+).

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## Example 70:

 $(R)-2-\{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.87 min, 515 (M+1, ES+).

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#### Example 71:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyi)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.89 min, 499 (M+1, ES+).

15 **Example 72:** 

(R)-2- $\{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.84 min, 485 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 73:

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(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(3-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(3-bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 509 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 74:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.92 min, 487 (M+1, ES+).

#### Example 75:

(R)-2- $\{(S)-1-[2-(2-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(2-bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: t = 0.85 min, 509 (M+1, ES+).

## Example 76:

(R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide:

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prepared by reaction of toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-1-[2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 509 (M+1, ES+).

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G.5 Synthesis of α-substituted glycinamides via alkylation of enantiomerically enriched 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolines with (S)-Toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester (general procedure):

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A solution of the respective enantiomerically enriched 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline derivative (19.7 mmol), DIPEA (27.6 mmol) and (S)-toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester (23.6 mmol) in 2-butanone is stirred under reflux for 2 d. Silica gel (106 g) and DCM (100 mL) are added, the solvents are removed in vacuo and the residue is purified by flash chromatography (gradient: ethyl acetate/heptane 1/2 to 4/1) to give the following acetamide derivatives:

Example 77:

 $(R)-2-\{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl\}-2-phenyl-acetamide:$ 

prepared by reaction of (S)-toluene-4-sulfonic acid carbamoyl-phenyl-methyl ester with (S)-6,7-dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline.

LC-MS: rt = 0.86 min, 499 (M+1, ES+).

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## **Claims**

#### 1. Novel compounds of formula (I).

$$R^2$$
 $R^4$ 
 $R^5$ 
 $R^6$ 
 $NH_2$ 

formula (I)

#### 10 wherein:

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R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> independently represent hydrogen; cyano; halogen; hydroxyl; lower alkyl; lower alkenyl; lower alkenyl; lower alkenyloxy; trifluoromethoxy; cycloalkyloxy or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> together as well as R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together or R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> together may form with the phenyl ring, to which they are attached, a five, six or seven-membered ring containing one or two oxygen atoms;

R<sup>5</sup> represents unsubstituted phenyl-C1-C4 alkyl or naphthyl-C1-C4 alkyl; mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl-C1-C4 alkyl whereby the substituents independently are lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluormethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen; unsubstituted or mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl-C2-C4 alkenyl whereby the substituents independently are lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluormethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen; a five- or six-membered heterocyclic ring-C1-C4 alkyl, whereby these rings contain one oxygen, one nitrogen or one sulphur atom; or two hetero atoms selected independently from oxygen, nitrogen or sulphur, whereby these heterocyclic rings are unsubstituted or mono- di- or tri-substituted independently with lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluormethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen; cycloalkyl-C1-C4 alkyl; or R<sup>7</sup>OCH<sub>2</sub>-;

30 R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen, phenyl; mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl whereby the substituents independently are lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy or halogen;

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R<sup>7</sup> represents C1-C4 alkyl, phenyl; mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl whereby the substituents independently are C1-C4 alkyl, C1-C4 alkoxy, C2-C4 alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen; phenyl-C1-C4 alkyl; mono-, di- or tri-substituted phenyl-C1-C4 alkyl, whereby the substituents independently are C1-C4 alkyl, C1-C4 alkoxy, C2-C4 alkenyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, difluormethoxy or halogen;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

- 2. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:
- 15 R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> represent hydrogen;

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> represent lower alkoxy;

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

3. Compounds of formula (1) wherein:

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> represent hydrogen;

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> form together with the phenyl ring, to which they are attached, a six-membered ring containing two oxygen atoms;

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

4. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:

R<sup>5</sup> represents a 2-phenylethyl or a five membered heterocyclic ethyl ring;

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

5. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:

R<sup>5</sup> represents a phenylmethyl; a naphth-2-ylmethyl or a 6- membered heterocyclylmethyl ring;

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>6</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

6. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:

R<sup>5</sup> represents a mono-, di-or trisubstituted phenyl-ethyl group;

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1; and R<sup>6</sup> is phenyl group; and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

20 7. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:

R<sup>5</sup> represents a 3-phenylpropyl group;

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1; and R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen or phenyl; and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

8. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> represent hydrogen;

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R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> represent lower alkoxy;

30 R<sup>5</sup> represents a 2-phenylethyl group;

R<sup>6</sup> represents a phenyl group;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and

the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

9. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> represent hydrogen;

5 R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> represent lower alkoxy;

R<sup>5</sup> represents a 2-phenylethyl group in which the phenyl group carries one, two or three substituents, each independently selected from lower alkyl or halogen;

R<sup>6</sup> represents a phenyl group;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

10. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> represent hydrogen;

15 R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> represent C1-C4 alkoxy;

R<sup>5</sup> represents a 2-phenylethyl group in which the phenyl group carries one or two substituents, each independently selected from lower alkoxy or halogen;

R<sup>6</sup> represents a phenyl group;

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and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

11. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> represent hydrogen;

25 R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> represent lower alkoxy;

R<sup>5</sup> represents a 2-phenylethyl group in which the phenyl group carries one or two substituents, each independently selected from trifluoromethyl or halogen;

R<sup>6</sup> represents a phenyl group;

and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.

- 12. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:
- R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> represent hydrogen;
- R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> represent lower alkoxy;
- R<sup>5</sup> represents a 2-phenylethyl group in which the phenyl group carries one or two substituents, each independently selected from difluoromethoxy or halogen;
  - R<sup>6</sup> represents a phenyl group;
  - and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological
- 10 forms, thereof.

- 13. Compounds of formula (I) wherein:
- R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> represent hydrogen;
- R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> represent lower alkoxy;
- R<sup>5</sup> represents a 2-phenylethyl group in which the phenyl group carries one or two substituents, each independently selected from trifluoromethoxy or halogen;
  - R<sup>6</sup> represents a phenyl group;
  - and pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers, pure diastereoisomers, mixtures of diastereoisomers, diastereoisomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereoisomeric racemates and the meso-form and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, thereof.
  - 14. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 13 selected from the group consisting of 2-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 2-{1-[2-(3,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-[1-(2-Furan-2-yl-ethyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:
  - 2-{1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 30 2-[1-(2,5-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

- 2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 5 2-{1-[2-(2,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-{6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-{1-[2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-
- 10 phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-[1-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxy-benzyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-{1-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 2-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1-phenoxymethyl-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:
  - 2-[6-(3,4-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-6H-[1,4]dioxino[2,3-g]isoquinolin-7-yl]-
- 20 2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - 2-[6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(3-phenyl-propyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-methyl-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 25 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-
- 30 1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(5-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-

- IH-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-$
- 5 isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 10 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(5-Chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-
- 15 1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 20 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-6-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-
- 25 1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
    - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2,3-Difluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 30 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Diffuoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-4-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Chloro-6-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 5 (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-o-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-m-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:
  - (R)-2-[(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-(2-p-tolyl-ethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl]-2-phenyl-acetamide:
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 15 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,6-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 25 (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-
- 30 yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

(R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

(R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;

- 5 (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,3,4-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - $(R)-2-\{(S)-1-[2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6, 7-dimethoxy-3, 4-dihydro-1H-1, 1-dimethoxy-3, 4-dimethoxy-3, 4-dihydro-1H-1, 1-dimethoxy-3, 4-dimethoxy-3, 4-dimethox$
- 10 isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2,6-Diffuoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 15 (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(2,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(3-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-
- 20 yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(2-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
  - (R)-2-{(S)-1-[2-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-ethyl]-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide;
- 25 (R)-2-{(S)-6,7-Dimethoxy-1-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl}-2-phenyl-acetamide.
  - 15. A process for the preparation of novel compounds of formula (I) in claim 1, comprising
    - a) transforming a compound of formula (II),

$$R^2$$
 $R^3$ 
 $R^4$ 
 $R^5$ 
 $R^6$ 
 $R^6$ 

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## formula (II)

wherein the substituents R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>6</sup> have the meaning given in formula I in claim 1, into a primary amide in a manner known per se,

- b) if desired, separating a mixture of stereoisomers obtained in a manner known per se,
  - c) and, if desired, converting a compound obtained into a salt in a manner known per se.
- 16. A process for the preparation of novel compounds of formula (I) in claim 1,

  10 comprising
  - a) reacting a compound of formula (III),

$$R^2 \xrightarrow{R^1} NH$$

formula (III)

wherein the substituents R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>5</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1, with sodium cyanide and an aldehyde, other than formaldehyde, of formula (IV)

formula (IV)

wherein R<sup>6</sup> has the meaning given in claim 1 with the proviso that R<sup>6</sup> is not hydrogen,

- b) transforming a nitrile obtained into an amide of formula (I) in a manner known per se,
- c) if desired, separating a mixture of stereoisomers obtained in a manner known per se,
- d) and, if desired, converting a compound obtained into a salt in a manner known per se.
  - 17. A process for the preparation of novel compounds of formula (I) in claim 1, comprising
    - a) reacting a compound of formula (V),

formula (V)

wherein the substituents R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1 and R<sup>11</sup> represents a phenyl group, with a tosylate of formula (VI)

formula (VI)

wherein R<sup>6</sup> has the meaning given in claim 1 with the proviso that R<sup>6</sup> is not hydrogen,

- b) if desired, separating a mixture of stereoisomers obtained in a manner known per se,
  - d) and, if desired, converting a compound obtained into a salt in a manner known per se.
- 18. A process for the preparation of novel compounds of formula (I) in claim 1,
  15 comprising
  - a) reacting an optically pure methyl glycolate derivative of formula (VII),

formula (VII)

wherein R<sup>6</sup> has the meaning given in claim 1 with the proviso that R<sup>6</sup> is not hydrogen, successively with ammonia in methanol and p-toluenesulfonyl chloride, b) reacting a tosylate obtained with a compound of formula (V),

formula (V)

wherein the substituents R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup> have the meaning given in claim 1 and R<sup>11</sup> represents a phenyl group,

- b) if desired, separating a mixture of stereoisomers obtained in a manner known per se,
- d) and, if desired, converting a compound obtained into a salt in a manner known per se.
- 19. Pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of disorders which are associated with the role of orexin, comprising one or more compounds of any one of claims 1 to 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and usual carrier materials and adjuvants.

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- 20. Pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of eating and sleep disorders, comprising one or more compounds of any one of claims 1 to 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and usual carrier materials and adjuvants.
- 21. The compounds of any one of claims 1 to 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use as medicaments for the treatment of disorders which are associated with a role of orexins.
  - 22. Use of a 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline derivative according to any of claims 1 to 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the preparation of a medicament for the prevention or treatment of diseases selected from the group consisting of depression; anxiety; addictions; obsessive compulsive disorder; affective neurosis; depressive neurosis; anxiety neurosis; dysthymic disorder; mood disorder; sexual dysfunction; psychosexual dysfunction; schizophrenia; manic depression; delirium; dementia; severe mental retardation and dyskinesias such as Huntington's disease and Tourette syndrome; diabetes; appetite/taste disorders; vomiting/nausea; asthma; Parkinson's disease; Cushing's syndrome/disease; basophil adenoma; prolactinoma; hyperprolactinemia; hypophysis tumour/adenoma; hypothalamic diseases; inflammatory bowel disease; gastric dyskinesia; gastric ulcers; Froehlich's syndrome; hypophysis diseases, hypothalamic hypogonadism; Kallman's syndrome (anosmia, hyposmia);

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functional or psychogenic amenorrhea; hypothalamic hypothyroidism; hypothalamicadrenal dysfunction; idiopathic hyperprolactinemia; hypothalamic disorders of growth hormone deficiency; idiopathic growth deficiency; dwarfism; gigantism; acromegaly; disturbed biological and circadian rhythms; sleep disturbances associated with diseases such as neurological disorders, neuropathic pain and restless leg syndrome; heart and lung diseases, acute and congestive heart failure; hypotension; hypertension; urinary retention; osteoporosis; angina pectoris; myocardial infarction; ischemic or haemorrhagic stroke; subarachnoid haemorrhage; ulcers; allergies; benign prostatic hypertrophy; chronic renal failure; renal disease; impaired glucose tolerance; migraine; pain; enhanced or exaggerated sensitivity to pain such as hyperalgesia, causalgia, and allodynia; acute pain; burn pain; atypical facial pain; neuropathic pain; back pain; complex regional pain syndrome I and II; arthritic pain; sports injury pain; pain related to infection e.g. by HIV; post-chemotherapy pain; post-stroke pain; post-operative pain; neuralgia; conditions associated with visceral pain such as irritable bowel syndrome, migraine and angina; urinary bladder incontinence e.g. urge incontinence; tolerance to narcotics or withdrawal from narcotics: sleep disorders: eating disorders; cardiovascular neurodegenerative disorders; sleep apnea; narcolepsy; insomnia; parasomnia; and neurodegenerative disorders including nosological entities such as disinhibition-dementiaparkinsonism-amyotrophy complex; pallido-ponto-nigral degeneration epilepsy, seizure disorders and other diseases related to general orexin system dysfunctions.

- 23. Use according to claim 22 wherein said diseases are selected from the group consisting of eating disorders or sleep disorders.
- 24. Use according to claim 23 wherein said eating disorders comprise metabolic dysfunction, dysregulated appetite control, compulsive obesities, emeto-bulimia or anorexia nervosa.
- 25.Use according to claim 23 wherein said sleep disorders comprise insomnias, narcolepsy and other disorders of excessive sleepiness, sleep-related dystonias, restless leg syndrome, sleep apneas, jet-lag syndrome, shift-work syndrome, delayed or advanced sleep phase syndrome.
- 26. A method of treating or preventing diseases or disorders where an antagonist of human orexin receptors is required, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

27. A process for the manufacture of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of disorders mentioned in claim 19 or 20, containing one or more compounds as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or salts thereof, as active ingredients which process comprises mixing one or more active ingredient or ingredients with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and adjuvants in a manner known per se.

28. Use of one or more compounds of any one of claims 1 to 14 in combination with other pharmacologically active compounds comprising other orexin receptor antagonists, lipid lowering agents, anorectic agents, sleep inducing agents, antidepressants or other drugs beneficial for the prevention or treatment of disorders given in any one of claims 19 to 26.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

TCT/EP2004/003057

a. classi IPC 7	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER CO7D217/18 C07D217/ C07D217/16 C07D217/16 A61P3/04 A61P25/2		0217/04						
According to	o international Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classific	ation and IPC							
	SEARCHED								
Minimum do IPC 7	cumentation searched (classification system followed by classification CO7D A61K A61P	on symbols)							
	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that s	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·							
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the International search (name of data ba	se and, where practical, search terms use	d)						
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, BEILSTEIN Data, CHEM ABS Data									
	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		1						
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rel	evanî passages	Relevant to dalm No.						
<b>X</b>	WO 01/68609 A (FISCHLI WALTER; F PHARMACEUTICALS LTD (CH); CAPPI N (DE)) 20 September 2001 (2001-09- cited in the application	1-28							
	claims 1,10	•							
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Furt	her documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent tamily members are listed	l in ennex.						
Special ca	legories of clied documents :	T' later document published after the in	ternational (Bino date						
'A' docum	ant defining the general state of the ext which is not tered to be of particular relevance	or priority dute and not in conflict wit ched to understand the principle of t	n the application but						
"E" earlier	document but published on or after the International	Invention "X" document of particular relevance; the	claimed invention						
"F. qocnius	ot be considered to locument is taken alone								
citatio	is cited to establish the publication date of enother n or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered to involve an I	nventive step when the						
ather	ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means	document is combined with one or a ments, such combination being obvi	nore other such docu— ous to a person sk#ed						
'P" docum tater ti	ent published prior to the international filling date but han the priority date claimed	In the art. "&" document member of the same pater	d family						
Date of the	actual completion of the infernational search .	Date of mailing of the international se	earch report						
2	8 June 2004	12/07/2004							
Name and	mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2	Authorized officer							
	NL - 2280 HV Fillswijk Tel. (+81-70) 840-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni,	Johnson, C							
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

nternational application No. PCT/EP2004/003057

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)
This international Search Report has not been established in respect of certain dalms under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. X Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claims 26,28 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.:  because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This international Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
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As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only same of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search tees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by daims Nos.:
Remark on Protest  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No TCT/EP2004/003057

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